

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for assisting collaboration between participants in a business community₁ comprising:

providing on a display device coupled to a data processing system a business view depicting a plurality of interlocked polygons illustrating interactions between the participants, the polygons being positioned relative to each other to define the participants for the interactions; and

deriving an interaction view from the business view using said data processing system₁, the interaction view depicting additional information between the participants₁,

wherein the business view and the interaction view assist collaboration between the participants in the business community.

2. (Originally Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
providing, in the business view, an indication of the benefits from the interactions.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further including:
providing a component view depicting ~~an implementation of the business and interaction view in a physical system~~ a system topology used by each participant.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein providing the component view includes depicting the availability of IT components ~~in the physical system.~~

5. (Originally Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein providing the component view includes depicting the activities of software components.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying collaboration between participants in a business community, comprising:

rendering, using a data processing system, a first graphical depiction of a sequence of interactions between different ones of the participants, the depiction including polygons being juxtaposed to indicate the sequence and participants of each of the interactions; and

rendering, using the data processing system, a second graphical depiction, derived from the first graphical depiction, of an information flow,

wherein the first graphical depiction and the second graphical depiction display collaboration between the participants in the business community.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, further including:
rendering a third graphical depiction depicting ~~an implementation of the first and second graphical depiction in a physical system~~ a system topology used by each participant.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the first graphical depiction includes[[,]] representing a plurality of interactions depicted as interlocking polygons.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the graphical depictions includes[[,]] vertically aligning representations of interactions involving one of the participants.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the graphical depictions includes[[,]] vertically aligning representations of business benefits, wherein the business benefits correspond to at least one participant.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the graphical depictions includes[[,]] vertically aligning representations of quantifiable business benefits, wherein the quantifiable business benefits provide a basis for ROI calculations.

12. (Originally Presented) The method of claim 6, further including producing a link from the first graphical depiction to the second graphical depiction.

13. (Originally Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the second graphical depiction includes providing additional information regarding interdependency of the participants.

14. (Originally Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the second graphical depiction includes depicting a sequence of activities.

15. (Originally Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the second graphical depiction includes depicting information sharing between participants.

16. (Originally Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the second graphical depiction includes depicting roles in the collaboration.

17. (Originally Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the second graphical depiction includes depicting features in the collaboration.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein rendering the third graphical depiction includes depicting ~~a system topology used by a participant~~ the availability of IT components.

19. (Originally Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein rendering the third graphical depiction includes depicting distributed and centralized systems.

20. (Originally Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the third graphical depiction is derived from the second graphical depiction and contains additional information regarding the collaboration between participants.

21. (Previously Presented) A method of displaying a value chain optimization in a collaborative business scenario, comprising:

displaying a first view, using a data processing system, the view including
a plurality of interlocking polygons depicting activities of participants in transactions, wherein the polygons corresponding to each participant are vertically aligned and
business benefits of the collaborative business scenario are shown in a vertical arrangement.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:
displaying a second view including
participants of the collaborative business scenario;
activities of the participants illustrated as interlocking polygons;
information flow between the participants illustrated as lines linking the interlocking polygons; and
connectors illustrating a direction of document exchange.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further including displaying a third view including:
a system topology at a business site of one of the participants.

24. (Previously Presented) A method for creating a collaboration between participants in a business scenario, comprising of:

accepting, into a data processing system, information:

identifying a collaborative business, participants in the collaborative business, and activities of the participants;

identifying functionality of the activities;

identifying system requirements used to implement the collaborative business;

identifying quantitative and qualitative business benefits based on a collaboration between participants;

identifying an industry and corresponding solution maps relating to the collaborative business; and

creating, in a data processing system, a collaboration for sharing a portion of the information accepted.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the participants include consumers, enterprises, or electronic marketplaces.

26. (Currently Amended) A system for displaying collaboration between participants in a business community, comprising:

first rendering means for rendering a first graphical depiction of a sequence of interactions between the participants, the interactions being depicted as polygons juxtaposed to indicate the sequence and the participants; and

second rendering means for rendering a second graphical depiction, derived from the first graphical depiction, containing information flow,

wherein the first graphical depiction and the second graphical depiction display collaboration between the participants in the business community.

27. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 26, further comprising:
third rendering means for rendering a third graphical depiction depicting an ~~implementation of the first and second graphical depiction in a physical system a~~
system topology used by each participant.

28. (Originally Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the first rendering means renders the interactions depicted as interlocking polygons.

29. (Originally Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the first rendering means further comprises aligning means for vertically aligning representations of interactions involving one of the participants.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the first rendering means further comprises aligning means for vertically aligning representations of business benefits, wherein the business benefits correspond to at least one participant.

31. (Originally Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the first rendering means further comprises aligning means for vertically aligning representations of quantifiable business benefits, wherein the quantifiable business benefits provide a basis for ROI calculations.

32. (Originally Presented) The system of claim 26, further comprising producing means for producing a link from the first graphical depiction to the second graphical depiction.

33. (Originally Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the second rendering means further renders additional information regarding interdependency of the participants in the second graphical depiction.

34. (Originally Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the second rendering means further renders a sequence of activities.

35. (Originally Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the second rendering means further renders information sharing between participants.

36. (Originally Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the second rendering means further renders roles in the collaboration.

37. (Originally Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the second rendering means further renders features in the collaboration.

38. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 27, wherein the third rendering means further renders ~~a system topology used by a participant~~ the availability of IT components.

39. (Originally Presented) The system of claim 38, wherein the third rendering means further renders distributed and centralized systems.

40. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium for controlling a data processing system to perform a method for displaying collaboration between participants in a business community executed in a data processing system, the computer readable medium comprising:

a rendering module for rendering a first graphical depiction of a sequence of interactions between the participants, the interactions being depicted as polygons juxtaposed to indicate the sequence and the participants; and

a second rendering module for rendering a second graphical depiction, derived from the first graphical depiction, containing information flow,

wherein the first graphical depiction and the second graphical depiction display collaboration between the participants in the business community.

41. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 40, further comprising:

a third rendering module for rendering a third graphical depiction depicting an ~~implementation of the first and second graphical depiction in a physical system a~~
system topology used by each participant.

42. (Originally Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the rendering module includes a representing module for representing a plurality of interactions depicted as interlocking polygons.

43. (Originally Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the second rendering module includes, a representation module for vertically aligning representations of interactions involving one of the participants.

44. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the rendering module includes, a representation module for vertically aligning representations of business benefits, wherein the business benefits correspond to at least one participant.

45. (Originally Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the rendering module includes, a representation module for vertically aligning representations of quantifiable business benefits, wherein the quantifiable business benefits provide a basis for ROI calculations.

46. (Originally Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 40, further including a producing module for producing a link from the first graphical depiction to the second graphical depiction.

47. (Originally Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the second rendering module includes, a providing module for providing additional information regarding interdependency of the participants.

48. (Originally Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the second rendering module includes, a depicting module for depicting a sequence of activities.

49. (Originally Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the second rendering module includes, a depicting module for depicting information sharing between participants.

50. (Originally Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the second rendering module includes, a depicting module for depicting roles in the collaboration.

51. (Originally Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the second rendering module includes, a depicting module for depicting features in the collaboration.

52. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 41, wherein the third rendering module includes, a depicting module for depicting ~~a system topology used by a participant~~ the availability of IT components.

53. (Originally Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 52, wherein the third rendering module includes, a depicting module for depicting distributed and centralized systems.

54. (Originally Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 51, wherein the third graphical depiction is derived from the second graphical depiction and contains additional information regarding the collaboration between participants.

55. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium for controlling a data processing system to perform a method for displaying a value chain optimization in a collaborative business scenario executed in a data processing system, the computer readable medium comprising:

a displaying module for displaying a first view including

a plurality of interlocking polygons depicting activities of participants in business transactions, wherein the polygons corresponding to each participant are vertically aligned; and

business benefits of the collaborative business scenario are shown in a vertical arrangement.

56. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 55, further comprising:

a displaying module for displaying a second view including
participants of the collaborative business scenario in vertical lanes;
activities of the participants depicted illustrated as interlocking polygons;
information flow between the participants illustrated as lines linking the
interlocking polygons; and
connectors illustrating a direction of document exchange.

57. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 55, further including a displaying module for displaying a third view including:

a system topology at a particular participant's site.

58. (Currently Amended) A method for assisting collaboration between participants in a business community, comprising:

providing on a display device coupled to a data processing system, a first view showing the participants, interactions between the participants, and defining the participants for the interactions;

providing on the display device, using the data processing system, a second view showing a sequence of the interactions; and

providing on the display device, using the data processing system, a third view showing ~~an implementation of the first view and the second view in a physical system a~~
system topology used by each participant,

wherein the first, second, and third views assist collaboration between the participants in the business community.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, wherein providing a first view comprises providing a first graphical view showing business benefits and value potential in addition to the participants, interactions between the participants, and defining the participants for the interactions.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, wherein providing a second view comprises providing a second graphical view showing roles of the participants and details of the interactions in addition to the sequence of the interactions.

61. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 58, wherein providing a third view comprises providing a third graphical view showing availability of IT components in the physical system.

62. (Currently Amended) A method for assisting collaboration between participants in a business community, comprising:

creating, using a data processing system, a first view showing at least the participants and activities performed by the participants;

creating, using the data processing system, a second view showing at least a sequence of the activities; and

creating, using the data processing system, a third view showing at least an ~~implementation of the first view and the second view in a physical system~~ a system topology used by each participant,

wherein the first, second, and third views assist collaboration between the participants in the business community.

63. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~58~~ 62, wherein creating a first view comprises creating a first graphical view showing at least business benefits and value potential in addition to the participants and activities.

64. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~58~~ 62, wherein creating a second view comprises creating a second graphical view showing at least roles of the participants and details of the activities in addition to the sequence of the activities.

65. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~58~~ 62, wherein creating a third view comprises creating a third graphical view showing at least at availability of IT components ~~in the physical system~~.